



## The Pensioner: *Looking Forward*

Welcome to the digital MPERS newsletter! *The Pensioner: Looking Forward* contains news, updates, and important information for active employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and MPERS.

### 2022 State of The System



### First Annual State of The System

We are excited to present the first annual State of The System virtual meeting on December 7th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for our members and other stakeholders to hear directly from the MPERS' executive team regarding administration, investments, financials, benefits, and legislation. Additionally, we want to hear from you! If you have a question you would like answered during the meeting, please include it with your GoToWebinar registration or you can email it directly to [julie.west@mpers.org](mailto:julie.west@mpers.org) with the subject "System Questions".

**Register for the State of The System here!**



**Oh, What a Year!**

Last year, MPERS had such a great year with regards to funding and investment returns, it was hard to imagine that it would get better.

You know what? IT DID!

## **3.94% Investment Return!**

Fiscal Year 2022 proved to be a formidable opponent in the stock market, but we came out ahead with a positive investment return of 3.94%. On its own, that number doesn't seem too impressive; however, most of our peers across the country had negative investment returns that ranged from -12% to -0.4%. This pleases us greatly because it is a continued step in the right direction for the longevity of your retirement system.

## **Top-Percentile Ranking!**

During the November 2022 Board of Trustees meeting, the investment report continued to be excellent with MPERS' returns ranking in the top one percent of the public fund peer universe in all time periods: the last quarter, as well as one-, three-, five-, and ten-year returns. This is important because it confirms that MPERS' Board and investment staff have the portfolio positioned to endure market volatility while managing risk and still making money for the System.

## **Clean Audit for 36th Year!**

MPERS participates in an annual financial audit in which an outside auditor takes a detailed look at financials. This includes investment financials, administrative financials, and benefit payment financials. A clean, or unmodified audit is something you should expect, nonetheless, we are proud of the result when managing a \$3 billion pension system.

## **Return to In-Person Pre-Retirement Seminars!**

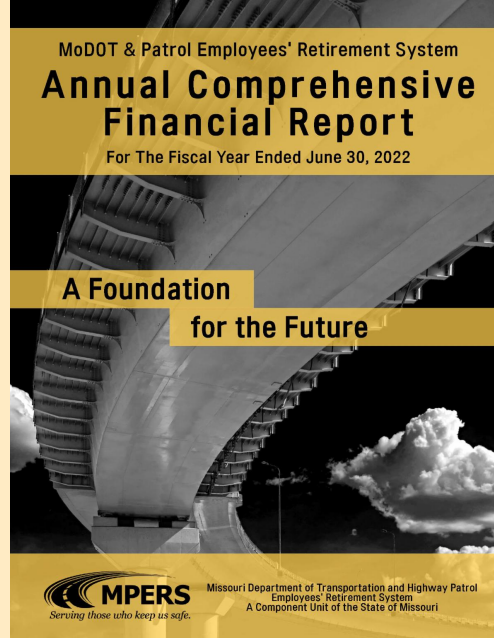
The year 2020 threw the world a curveball, and we were not exempt from the impact of that curveball. March 2020 was the last time we conducted an in-person pre-retirement seminar, and never did we think it would be two years later we would conduct our next one. But it was, and it was marvelous!

We were excited to return to in-person pre-retirement seminars in a limited capacity during the summer of 2022. We visited St. Louis, St. Joseph, Sikeston, and Springfield and met with 278 members.

We look forward to bringing back a bigger in-person schedule for 2023.

If you like virtual seminars, don't worry, they will also be offered in 2023!

## **The FY 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is Now Available!**



Benefit payment tax withholding updates to be effective January 1, 2023, and after, must be made using separate federal and state W-4P forms. If you need assistance completing these forms, please contact a tax professional.

Please remember, MPERS cannot give tax advice. Please consult a tax professional regarding completion of the [IRS W-4P](#) and the [MO W-4P](#) should you need assistance.

More information on taxes can be found on the [Frequently Asked Questions - Taxes](#) page of our website.



## 2023 Board Meeting Schedule

- Friday, February 17, 2023
- Friday, April 28, 2023\*
- Thursday, June 22, 2023
- Thursday, September 21, 2023
- Thursday, November 16, 2023

\*Only if needed for legislative session

## Retirement Deadlines

Intended Date of Retirement	Step 1 <i>Notice of Retirement</i> Due at MPERS	Step 2 <i>Retirement Election Form</i> Due at MPERS
January 1	September 1 - November 30	December 31
February 1	October 1 - December 31	January 31
March 1	November 1 - January 31	February 28
April 1	December 1 - February 28	March 31
May 1	January 1 - March 31	April 30
June 1	February 1 - April 30	May 31
July 1	March 1 - May 31	June 30
August 1	April 1 - June 30	July 31
September 1	May 1 - July 31	August 31
October 1	June 1 - August 31	September 30
November 1	July 1 - September 30	October 31
December 1	August 1 - October 31	November 30

# december

## Upcoming Events

- 7 - First annual State of The System virtual meeting - 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. [Register here](#)
- 26 - Christmas Day observed, office closed
- 31 - Deadline to submit step 1 - *Notice of Retirement* for February 1 retirement



We value your feedback!

What would you like to see in ***The Pensioner: Looking Forward?***

Send comments and suggestions to [Julie.West@mpers.org](mailto:Julie.West@mpers.org).